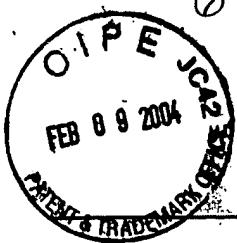


AF
1617

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:)
 Pilch et al.)
 Serial No.: 09/945,155)
 Filed: August 31, 2001)
 For: INHIBITION OF VIRAL)
 REPLICATION BY TARGETING RNA-)
 DNA COMPLEXES)

Examiner: Shengjun Wang

Group Art Unit: 1617

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited this day, February 4, 2004, with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to MS AF, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

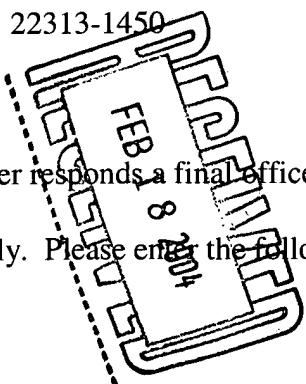
AMY SHIELDS

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

MS AF
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper responds to a final office action, mailed November 12, 2003. Thus, this response is timely. Please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks:



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